

Julie L. Jones
Executive Director

2900 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0500
www.flhsmv.gov



Rick Scott
Governor

Pam Bondi
Attorney General

Jeff Atwater
Chief Financial Officer

Adam Putnam
Commissioner of Agriculture

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 29, 2014

CONTACT: LESLIE PALMER
(850) 617-3102

GOVERNOR SCOTT'S BUDGET PROPOSAL PROMOTES PUBLIC SAFETY AND IMPROVES MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICES

~ DHSMV highlights 2014-2015 agency budget recommendations ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Governor Rick Scott's "It's Your Money Tax Cut Budget" provides a continuing commitment to public safety and to improve motor vehicles services in Florida. The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles today released agency highlights included in the Governor's proposed 2014-2015 budget.

"Governor Scott's proposed spending plan modernizes the systems used for issuing driver licenses and vehicle registrations, while helping to ensure the safety of Florida residents and visitors on our highways," said DHSMV Executive Director Julie L. Jones. "The Governor's budget recommendations for the Department, coupled with vehicle registration fee reductions, are a win-win for Floridians."

Gov. Scott's proposed budget includes nearly \$12 million in funding for the first year of a three year project to improve the way the Department processes driver licenses and motor vehicle registrations. The first year of the upgrade includes the creation of a user friendly "MyDMV" portal for customers choosing to renew their driver license or vehicle registration online.

Gov. Scott's proposed budget also maintains full funding for the Florida Highway Patrol and provides the Patrol \$2 million in additional resources that will enable troopers to be available when the motoring public needs assistance. The budget also includes \$6.9 million to replace aging law enforcement vehicles that, due to their high use, have higher than normal annual mileage and maintenance costs.

Gov. Scott is also recommending the allocation of nearly \$2 million to move a law enforcement communication center to enhance the security of the center and facilitate the use of new technologies that cannot physically fit into the current location due to space limitations. The center receives and dispatches services calls for 18 counties and 9 statewide law enforcement agencies.

Springfield Police Chief Philip Thorne, President of the Florida Police Chief Association said, "We appreciate the commitment for public safety that Governor Scott continues to show. His support of the funding for DHSMV better serves the public not only with the visible FHP, but also with the behind the scenes support and technical services that DHSMV provides to both law enforcement and the general public."

Doc Hyder, Chairman of the Florida Trucking Association (FTA) said, "The longstanding relationship between law enforcement and Florida's trucking industry is an important one. We rely on FHP's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement professionals for regulatory guidance and safety enforcement. As a trucking company owner, I believe the influence and work of the FHP is vital to the industry as a whole. I'm pleased that Governor Scott is recommending full funding for their 2014 mission."

Steven Barnett, Chairman of the Florida Highway Patrol Advisory Council said, "Governor Scott's budget proposal reflects his strong commitment to public safety as well as his support of the work of the men and women of the Florida Highway Patrol".

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov, follow us on Twitter at [@FDHSMV](https://twitter.com/FDHSMV) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/flhsmv).

###